ABRAHAM TRUEMAN'S

LETTER

TO

JAMES,

THE

Scribe.

DUBLIN:

Printed in the YEAR 1760.

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A

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Friend James,

I Am very sorry on thy account, I did not know thou intended writing thy last Letter. For had I known it in Time, I would have put thee in mind how useless thy former Sapless Letters were to thee; and how thou and they were Ridiculed.

And I would by all means have adviſed thee againſt expoſing thyſelf, to pleaſe and gratify a Parcel of GLUTTONS and WINE-BIBBERS; Who, to humour thee, applaud all thou writeſt, and thou being Froward and fond of Flattery art unwarily Lead in to do their dirty Work. Take care what thou doſt! Verily thou art "*Kicking againſt the Pricks.*" And I muſt ſay unto thee in truth and Plainneſs, If thy Tongue was of no more uſe to thee than thy Pen, thou mighteſt ſhut up thy mouth. O friend, pity thyſelf. Dont mind the Men with the Fool's Coats. If thou waſt a Fool, I would anſwer thee according to thy Folly, but thou art not. Take care thy conſcience dont gnaw thee.

I WOULD gladly know, doſt thou ſcribble thoſe things for Gain, or 2dly, for PLUMB-PUDDING, or laſtly, for to gratify an old grudge thou contracted almoſt three years ago. If for the firſt thou doſt well. Make them

them pay thee for the loſs of Reputation, in which truly thou ſuffereſt more than thou art aware. If for the ſecond, I think it a Shame for thee; that for thy Belly's ſake thou ſhouldſt ſacrifice thy better part, thy good name, and that becauſe the Gorbellyed—Men do it. But if for the latter, I ſay unto thee it is now high time thy Wrath ſhould be turned away. "*Let not the Sun then go down on thy wrath*" any more. But why ſhouldeſt thou be wrathful? I know thou didſt aim at a high Seat not yet fit for thee; and there came one honourabler than thou, and it was ſaid unto him, come up higher, but thou was juſtly put down for thy Preſumption.

I CANNOT help thinking how inconſiſtent thou art with thyſelf! Thou thirſteſt for *Honour*, and having proved thy friends thou knoweſt they are not able to help thee, for verily they are ſhorn of their ſtrength; and yet thou liſteſt up thy Heel againſt

gainſt thoſe that can. Surely the Houſe of thy friends is Waxed weaker and weaker, and the Houſe of thoſe thou art againſt is Waxed ſtronger and ſtronger. O then friend humble thyſelf and repent thee of the Evil of thy ways before it be too late. I would not give myſelf ſo much trouble on thy account if I thought thou was Incorrigible, but I hope thou wilt ſee theſe *****-men only make a Cat's Paw of thee, and after they have brought thee into the *muck* (according to cuſtom) they will leave thee there.

O *James*, *James!* What haſt thou done? I am ſure thou couldeſt not ſay when thou waſt writing "*that thy Heart was inditing a good matter.*" Yea thou art a meer babler. Thou goeſt about and about the buſh, and all that can be deduced from thy writing is, that thou art in great Fear thy *Dagon* will fall to the Ground, and thou would have People be as weak as thyſelf, and help

thee

thee to Prop it up; tho' the very Foundation thereof ſhaketh; Whereas thou ſhouldeſt rather eſcape for thy Life, leaſt it fall upon thee and grind thee to powder. O Friend ſee thy Folly, Humble and Abaſe thyſelf in the Duſt; and who knoweſt if thou ſincerely Repent, but when there is Room for thee and thou art worthy of it, it may be ſaid unto thee alſo, Come up higher. But thou art as yet a Foul Bird, for thou beſmitteſt thy own Neſt.

My Dear Friend dont Provoke the People any more. For I ſay unto thee, If thou doſt, and they think it worth their while, they will lay Hands upon thee; they will rip thee open, they will diſſect thee, Limb from Limb, (I mean thy Writings) yea I fear they will expoſe thy very Heart to public View, which, JAMES, JAMES, thou knoweſt it will not bear. Moreover if thou Perſiſteſt in thy Evil, I cannot refrain friend SARAH, who longs to be at thee. And thou

mayeſt know Friend, Our She Friends (tho' they look as mild as thyſelf) can uſe the unruly member as well as any Law-monger whatever; and if ſhe cannot ſpeak with as much Eloquence, thou wont deny but ſhe will ſpeak with as much Senſe. And if thou ſtirreſt her up, ſhe will ring thee a Peal will Din thy Ears. Take care of thyſelf! Thou wilt ſtand in need of great Pity. She'll make thee a Proverb of Reproach from *Dan* even unto *Beerſheba*. Yea ſhe will make thy Name ſtink in the Noſtrils of the People. And cauſe thee and thy writings to be a Subject for Laughter in every Street and Lane of the City, yea and every corner thereof. How wouldſt thou like that Friend?

As I cannot get a ſight of thy Letter, I have inquired, and hear it's as Frothy, Unmeaning, Inſignificant and Incoherent as thy three forementioned Sapleſs Letters. Is this true Friend JAMES? Thou mayeſt

eſt tell thy friend! I will believe thee for once! I am not ſo Incredulous but that I do believe even Law-mongers ſpeak truth ſometimes. If it be true, art thou not aſhamed? Thou that art a ſcholar, and who has coſt thee Parents Large Money? I know thou knoweſt how to flouriſh, for thou flouriſhes like a Gladiator; But thoſe thou art againſt being out of thy reach, when thou ſtrikeſt, thou only beateſt the Air. But it is not ſo with them. Thou mayeſt ſay this thy friend's Letter is not grammatical, yet I am ſure it is Electrical, thou canſt not but underſtand it: Nay and feel it, if thou art not paſt feeling.

I HEAR thou ſay'ſt in thy Letter, that the People, by murmuring or complaining, Imply a Contempt of M——cy, and by this murmuring and complaining bring them into great Contempt. If thou aimeſt at the "*riotous and tumultuous aſſembly*" thou art pretty right. Theſe are

that were * in the City and out of it at the ſame time. But if thou aimeſt at the Bulk of the freemen, thou art all wrong. I will put the matter in a clear light. Were our Anceſtors *right* or *wrong* in murmuring and complaining under the ſevere yoke of *King James the ſecond?* If thou thinkeſt they were right, (remember they did not complain againſt Monarchy, but the Abuſe of the Royal Authority) then why doſt thou ſpeak as thou doſt? Is it not as Juſtifiable now to complain againſt inferior Powers at it was then againſt the ſuperior Power, if the authority ſhould be abuſed. But if thou thinkeſt they were wrong, We need not Heſitate to ſay thou art very like a Jacobite; and mark the People now, dont ſeek utterly to extirpate the Wicked; but to Prevent the increaſe. *Time* will Root out every Bramble.

Thus

* Alluding to the Words in a Proclamation, "*In the remote Parts of this City, and out of the Juriſdiction thereof.*"

The Freemen know right well that Magiſtrates are a Terror to Evil Doers, and the praiſe of them that do well, while they fill their ſtations with Juſtice and Equity. They deſire to have a Chieftain to rule and keep the People honeſt and quiet; they think its alſo needful he ſhould have two Men, one on his right hand and the other on his left, to execute Juſtice, and to be unto him as the *Flapper Men* mentioned by Lemuel Gulliver; They think it needful to have ſuch a Man as thou, to direct the Chieftain; and they alſo think it neceſſary that he ſhould have at leaſt twenty four Elders or Aldmen, grown old in the Service of the Public, to councel and advice him. They never objected to theſe Officers, or to a due Reſpect to them; But they juſtly complain againſt an abuſe of Power by ſome Inferior Magiſtrates. Perhaps thou mayeſt ſay, Who abuſed his Power? When didſt thou ſee it done? I will anſwer

thee by asking thee a few Questions. Suppose a Chieftain would pull down thy House, or thy Palisadoes, or even the tops of thy Palisadoes, Would thou call this an abuse of Power ?. When was this done ? Suppose a *Flapper Man* to oblige a friend, would send thee to Prison without any accusation against thee; and when thou was lawfully discharged, he would shut thee up again, and beat thy Wife, and the Chieftain would take his part, would thou call this an abuse of Power ? Was this, or any thing like this, to thy Knowledge, hearsay or belief, ever done ?

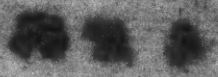
Suppose after thou wast shut up, and thy money gone, and thou almost starving, thou didst come forth, to prove thy innocence, that the Chieftain would not spend time to hear thy Defence, but Remand thee back again to Goal for a week or a month longer; Wouldst thou think this an Abuse of Power ? Is this ever done ? Suppose aSojourner owed theeMoney,

and

and thou depended upon it to pay thy Rent, without paying of which, thou, thy Wife and Children would be turned out of Doors; and thy Bed ſold from under thee, and Peradventure thy Wife juſt down lying; and in thy diſtreſs thou applied thyſelf to the Chieftain, the father of all, or to the *Flapper Men*, for their Warrant to get the money; and that they nor any of them would grant thee a warrant, till thou didſt firſt go and bid the Creditor go out of the way; Wouldeſt thou call this an abuſe of Power? Didſt thou ever ſee this or any thing like this done? &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c.

O *James* thou feeleſt nothing of the Oppreſſions of the oppreſſed. Till thou doſt thou canſt not ſo well Judge, but put thyſelf in their ſtead, and then ſay would thou not as well as thy Friend, long to ſee an end of all abominations, and that Righteouſneſs

ouſneſs might flow down our Streets like a River.—" *Lift not up thy Horn then.*"—" *Beware of the Leaven of the Phariſees.*"—Thou ſeeſt Friend I would not Revile thee. I only bring before thee the Glaſs of Truth, that thou mayeſt ſee thyſelf what thou art, and what abuſe thou haſt received from thoſe thou calleſt thy Friends, but are indeed thy Enemies. O Friend " *Buy the truth, but ſell it not.*" It will withſtand all the oppoſition of Falſhood. " *Follow Peace with all Men,*" and when that is really the Caſe, thou mayeſt depend upon the Hearts of the People, and Particularly on the Sincere Friendſhip of 4 AP 54

Thy true and real Friend,

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